

Application No. 10/802,984

REMARKS

Non-entry of the Amendment After Final filed 23 January 2006 upon filing the RCE has been requested in the Request for Continued Examination enclosed herewith. In view of the non-entry of the Amendment After Final, the present amendment is based on the claims presented in the Amendment filed on October 3, 2005.

Claims 1-21 are pending. By this Amendment, 2, 9, and 16 are canceled and claims 1, 3, 4, 6 – 8, 10, 11, 13, 15 and 17 - 20 are amended.

Claim Objections

Claims 8 and 15 have been amended to correct the objections noted by the Examiner.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-7, 9-14 and 16-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Claims 2, 9, and 16 have been cancelled. The remaining claims rejected under § 112 have been amended to correct the noted indefiniteness.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-4 and 7, were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Komuro et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,851,659). The independent claims have been amended to more closely